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**Minutes of Meeting  
October 28 & 29, 2020  
Zoom**

**Members Present:**

Barb Abeln  
Kathie Erdman-Becker  
Whitney Bruner  
Toni Feist  
Erica Gloor  
Bernie Grimme  
Reed Haug  
Chuck Henrie  
Valerie Husby  
Tania Kostal

Dr. Eric Kurtz  
Tim Neyhart  
Jennifer Olson  
Connie Schmitz  
Derek Smith  
Cindy Taber  
Wendy Trujillo  
Sara Valle  
Joey Younie

**Others Attending:**

Arlene Poncelet

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Erica Gloor called the meeting to order and read the mission statement: “Assist people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to experience the quality of life they desire through advocacy and systems change.”

Roll call of members was completed with everyone sharing something positive from the past few months. Once introductions were complete the meeting agreements were read.

**AGENDA & MINUTES**

Derek Smith made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Toni Feist. Motion passed.

Chuck Henrie made a motion, seconded by Derek Smith, to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2020 meeting of the Council. Motion passed.

### REVIEW AND APPROVE THE ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Arlene Poncelet shared the reports from the Executive Committee meetings and reviewed the actions taken at those meetings.

Sara Valle made a motion, seconded by Tania Kostal, to approve the reports of the Executive Committee meetings held September 9, and September 24, 2020. Motion passed unanimously.

The following actions were taken by the Executive Committee:

1. Approved extension of time for the BHSSC Bright Beginnings grant (new end date of 6/30/2021)
2. Reviewed Concept Papers for Call for New Initiatives and asked all 6 to submit proposals.
3. Acknowledged receipt of Letter of Intent from the Center for Disabilities to respond to the Request for Proposal for Native American Advocacy Training

Toni Feist made a motion to ratify the actions of the Executive Committee, seconded by Chuck Henrie. Motion passed. Eric Kurtz abstained.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Arlene Poncelet shared that the Council's request for an extension to obligate and expend the remaining FFY2019 funds was approved by the Office on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (OIDD).

The Council's Annual Report for FFY2020 will be due on December 31, 2020 although OIDD is not sure how the submission will happen as the electronic data submission system will not be used this year.

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### **BUDGET UPDATE**

Arlene Poncelet reviewed the budget reports sent to Council members. The Council currently has over-obligated the FFY19 award by \$175,926 (as a result of the first in, first out method of paying expenditures for the Council); \$506,414 of FFY20 federal funds; and \$520,902 of FFY21. It was estimated that the Council would have approximately \$117,613 of federal funds remaining IF all proposals were approved at this meeting.

Derek Smith made a motion to accept the Budget Report as presented, seconded by Chuck Henrie. Motion passed unanimously.

### **GRANT REVIEW PROCESS**

Arlene Poncelet reviewed the process for reviewing non-competitive and competitive grants during the meetings on October 28 and 29.

### **ELECTION OF MEMBER AT LARGE**

Derek Smith is currently in this position and is eligible for another term. He decided not to serve a second term. Derek Smith nominated Toni Feist, seconded by Tania Kostal.

Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion, seconded by Derek Smith, that nominations cease. Motion passed.

Derek Smith made a motion to elect Toni Feist as the new Member-at-Large, seconded by Kathie Erdman Becker. Motion passed. Toni abstained.

### **GRANT APPLICATION – Disability Rights South Dakota – Partners in Policymaking Year 29**

Tim Neyhart and Sandy Hook from Disability Rights South Dakota presented information on this proposal and shared how the pandemic changed the last two months of Year 28.

Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion, seconded by Val Husby, to approve \$150,000 of federal funds for Partners in Policymaking Year 29

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& recruitment for Year 30. Motion passed. Tim Neyhart and Eric Kurtz abstained.

GRANT APPLICATION – Volunteers of America, Dakotas (VOAD) – Employee Success Coach, Year 3

Brian Mulder, Tara Camp and Katie Seymour from Volunteers of America, Dakotas presented information on the Employee Success Coach. Council members were pleased that retention of direct support professionals and completion of trainings have increased. Other questions included how the grant has changed the culture within VOAD; sustainability of the position after the grant period ends; and the impact on people served.

Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion, seconded by Toni Feist, to approve \$33,666 of federal funds for the Employee Success Coach Year 3. Motion passed.

GRANT APPLICATION – Center for Disabilities – Advocacy & Leadership Training for Native Americans with Disabilities and Their Families

Jim Warne with the Center for Disabilities' Oyate Circle presented to the Council. Discussion included the plan for including Elder Councils as well as groups of transition age youth; gathering stories and data through talking circles; and the importance of connections.

Chuck Henrie made a motion, seconded by Derek Smith, to approve \$39,791 of federal funds for the Advocacy & Leadership Training for Native Americans with Disabilities and Their Families program. Motion passed. Abstaining were Eric Kurtz and Tim Neyhart.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public were present to speak to the Council.

Tania Kostal shared information on the [www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org) website and a webinar she watched on "Navigating Ins and Outs of Resources". She

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recommended Council members check out Pacer as well as the MN Disability Hub.

Derek Smith shared that he attended the Fall RehabACTion Conference virtually and enjoyed the speakers.

### RECESS

Chuck Henrie made a motion, seconded by Derek Smith, to recess the meeting until 9 a.m. Central Time on October 29, 2020. Motion passed.

### Day 2 – October 29, 2020

At 9 a.m. on October 29, 2020, Erica Gloor called the meeting to order.

Arlene Poncelet provided a quick review of the grant review process.

### GRANT APPLICATION – Best Buddies International – Ambassador Training Program

Jen Gelhardt, Mia Pollock, Alyssa Gentile and Lisa Derx presented the proposal and answered questions. Council discussion included why there are no Best Buddies chapters West River; how does Best Buddies reach adults with I/DD for the college programs; when and how do they survey participants; how are volunteers/buddies screened; how are buddies matched; and why no background checks.

### GRANT APPLICATION – Black Hills Special Services Cooperative – Bright Beginnings Engaging Families Phase 2

Darbi Hunt and Pam Lange from Black Hills Special Services Cooperative and Sarah Carter from the Department of Education Birth to Three Program presented this proposal to the Council. Council discussion included how going virtual impacted the budget; how it is marketed; who is eligible to participate and the application process; how coaches are

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selected and trained; appreciated the time commitment of participants and the use of research based and national standards.

### GRANT REVIEW BREAKOUT

Council members were sent to breakout rooms to discuss the various elements of the grant review criteria. When returning, each room provided their numbers for the criteria.

### GRANT APPLICATION – Black Hills Works – BHW Avail Technology for Workforce Development

Tara Blasius, Heather Jansen and Tammy Murner from Black Hills Works presented this proposal. Council discussion included the cost of the app per person; how the pre-recorded videos would apply; involvement of people with disabilities when determining who would be using the app; how the job coaching works when it's 3 a.m. and a person needs assistance; and a plan for replacement of the devices.

### GRANT APPLICATION – USD Center for Disabilities – Community Based Transition Partnership

John R Johnson, Emily Meier and Eric Kurtz were available to present this proposal. Council discussion included how families and youth with disabilities are involved in developing the transition process and how much they are involved; the memorandum of understanding and what that means; and evaluation activities.

### GRANT APPLICATION – LifeScape – Safety Care Recertification for Trainers at LifeScape

Jason Schoolmeester and Mindy Schroedermeier from LifeScape presented this proposal to the Council. Discussion included how the agency would cover the cost without Council funding; what outcomes were seen during the first year; what was better about Safety Care than what was used before; and is it trauma-informed care.

### GRANT REVIEW BREAKOUT

Council members were sent to breakout rooms to discuss the various elements of the grant review criteria. When returning, each room provided their numbers for the criteria. The Council reviewed the results, started with the application that received the most points and worked through the list.

BHSSC – Bright Beginnings – Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion, seconded by Derek Smith, to approve \$94,476 of federal funds for this project. Additional discussion: well put together application; Arlene needs to verify the match amount; liked the transparency on virtual experience and the strength of providing Continuing Education Units (CEU) credits. Motion passed 15-0. Wendy Trujillo and Eric Kurtz abstained.

BH Works – Avail Technology – Derek Smith made a motion, seconded by Toni Feist, to approve \$46,250 of federal funds for this project. Additional discussion: liked seeing the success from other places; clear feedback from people served; need to be sure that people served understand that if they are not happy with their services (or using the technology) that they can call Disability Rights SD for assistance. Motion passed 15-0. Abstaining was Joey Younie and Eric Kurtz.

USD Center for Disabilities – Community Based Transition Partnership – Derek Smith made a motion, seconded by Kathie Erdman Becker, to approve \$99,961 of federal funds for this project. Additional discussion: some members were not sure on what would be accomplished or if this is a duplication of what is currently happening; Arlene needs to verify the match amount; national score was a plus; and liked the inclusion of Pine Ridge area. Motion passed 12-1. Abstaining were Eric Kurtz, Tim Neyhart and Wendy Trujillo.

LifeScape – Safety Care Recertification – Derek Smith made a motion, seconded by Kathie Erdman Becker, to approve

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\$22,500 of federal funds specifically due to circumstances related to pandemic costs for the agency. Additional discussion: foundation dollars are stretched; probably would not support in the future; and is the Council setting a precedent for future requests. Motion passed 8-5. Abstaining were Eric Kurtz and Joey Younie.

Best Buddies International – Best Buddies Ambassador

Training – Derek Smith made a motion, seconded by Wendy Trujillo, to approve \$15,000 of federal funds for this project. Discussion included: is it a duplication of Partners; needs to be statewide; concerned about no screening or background checks; public speaking on what topics; only measuring # of public speaking events not leadership activities; what happens next; any follow-up. Motion failed 1-13. Abstaining was Eric Kurtz.

Adjourn

Derek Smith made a motion, seconded by Toni Feist, to adjourn the meeting at 1:07 p.m. Motion passed.